HIST 223 001 Sp22

Jump to Today ✎ Edit

History of Modern Africa

"Out of Africa always something new."

Pliny, the Elder

The expansion of the world economy in the middle of the nineteenth century opened a new chapter in the history of Africa, shaping the lives of many men, women, and children living in the continent today. This course introduces students to the recent history of Africa. It examines the impact of the European colonization, the struggle for liberation, and the challenges that Africans faced and are still facing since they regained their independence based on primary and secondary sources. Every week students will analyze a primary source related directly to that week's topic. Secondary sources will help them contextualize the issues under consideration, gain historical awareness, and identify different scholarly trends as well as competing interpretations over the events and primary sources presented in class. Assignments are designed specifically to help students develop a scholarly voice, learn discipline specific styles, cite sources, improve editing skills, in addition to measuring students' comprehension of the course's contents. All in all, the course provides students with an opportunity to understand the major forces that shaped the lives of present-day Africans while mastering valuable skills in the humanities and social sciences.

Dr. Daniel Domingues

domingues@rice.edu (mailto:domingues@rice.edu)

Office hours every Tuesday from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM or by appointment at HUMA 304

Class meets every MWF from 9:00 AM to 9:50 AM at HUMA 118

OUTLINE

January 10 | Introductions and Overview

- “Beyond the Western Gaze,” ***Africa Is a Country*** (https://africasacountry.com/2020/05/beyond-the-western-gaze/) , May 29, 2020.

January 12 | Africa in Time and Space

- Do you know Africa? Check your knowledge with the following map quiz from the ***Washington Post.*** (https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/world/do-you-know-africa/)

PART I

AFRICA AT THE END OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

January 14 | West Africa and the Ending of the Atlantic Slave Trade

- "Real Estate as an Economic Alternative to the Slave Trade," with Dr. Hermann von Hesse, Mellon Sawyer Postdoctoral Fellow at Rice University.
- Examine the evolution of the transatlantic slave trade on **SlaveVoyages.** (https://slavevoyages.org/)

January 17 | No class – Martin Luther King Jr.'s Day

January 19 and 21 | Book discussion – *Abina and the Important Men: A Graphic History*

January 24 | Ivory and Slaves in Central and Eastern Africa

- “Elephants Born without Tusks in ‘Evolutionary Response’ to Violent Poachers,” ***The Telegraph*** (https://www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/climate-and-people/mozambique-elephants-born-without-tusks-evolutionary-response/) , October 22, 2021.

January 26 | Warfare, Migration, and Colonization in Southern Africa

- “The Unfounded Fears of a Zulu Hegemony,” ***Africa Is a Country*** (https://africasacountry.com/2013/05/language-policy-in-south-africa-and-the-unfounded-fears-of-a-zulu-hegemony) , May 23, 2013, (https://africasacountry.com/2013/05/language-policy-in-south-africa-and-the-unfounded-fears-of-a-zulu-hegemony)

January 28 | Jihad and Resistance in North and Northeast Africa

January 25 | Jihad and Resistance in North and Northeast Africa

- “Africa’s Jihadists: What Taliban Takeover of Afghanistan Means,” ***BBC News*** **(https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-58279439)** , August 20, 2021.

January 31 | Missionaries, Explorers, and Early African Nationalism

- "When the Camera Was a Weapon of Imperialism. (And When It Still Is.),” ***The New York Times*** **(https://nyti.ms/2UJjlGE)** , February 6, 2019.

PART II

AFRICA DURING EUROPEAN COLONIZATION

February 2 and 4 | Partition, Conquest, and Resistance North of the Kalahari

- "The Story of the Maxim Gun," *National Geographic*, via **YouTube.** **(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KxSxOyEn4s)**

February 7 and 9 | No class – Mellon Sawyer Seminar

February 11 | No class – Spring recess

February 14 | Conquest, Resistance, and Industrialization in Southern Africa

- “Why South African Students Say the Statue of Rhodes Must Fall,” ***NPR*** **(https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2015/03/28/395608605/why-south-african-students-say-the-statue-of-rhodes-must-fall)** , March 28, 2015.

February 16 and 18 | Africa under European Colonial Rule

- View how the political map of African changed over time with the **Animated Atlas of African History, 1879-2002.** **(http://brown.edu/Research/AAAH/index.htm)**

February 21 and 23 | Book discussion – *African Perspectives on Colonialism*

February 25 | No class – CLIR-Mellon Fellows Reunion

February 28 | Book discussion – *African Perspectives on Colonialism*

March 2 and 4 | Africa and the Impact of European Colonialism

- "A 1940s Board Game for French Kids Taught Tactics for Successful Colonialism," ***Slate, The Vault*** **(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_vault/2014/02/28/colonialism_game_french_board_game_meant_to_t**, February 28, 2014.

March 7 to 11 | Africa, the World War II, and the Crisis of Colonialism

- "Britain's Abandoned Black Soldiers," ***Foreign Policy*** **(https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/02/23/britains-abandoned-black-soldiers/)**, February 23, 2019. **(https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/02/23/britains-abandoned-black-soldiers/)**

March 14 to 18 | No class – Spring break

March 21 to 25 | Book discussion – *Kwame Nkrumah: Visions of Liberation*

PART III

AFRICA SINCE INDEPENDENCE

March 28 and 30 | Africa, Europe, and the Struggle for Independence

- "Reclaiming Africa's Early Post-Independence History." ***Africa Is a Country*** **(https://africasacountry.com/2020/07/reclaiming-africas-early-post-independence-history/)**, July 28, 2020. **(https://africasacountry.com/2020/07/reclaiming-africas-early-post-independence-history/)**

April 1 | No class – Fondren Fellows Research Trip

April 4 | Africa and the Fall of European Colonial Rule

- "Eurafrica and the Myth of African Independence," ***Al Jazeera*** **(https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/eurafrica-myth-african-independence-191124063734264.html)**, November 24, 2019. **(https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/eurafrica-myth-african-independence-191124063734264.html)**

April 6 | Colonial Legacies and African Responses

- TBC "The South African Liberation Movement," with Dr. Kerry Ward, Associate Professor of History at Rice University.

April 8 | African Achievements and Modern Challenges

- "The African Century," ***The Economist*** **(https://www.economist.com/special-report/2020-03-28)**, Special Report, March 28, 2020.
- "The State of Africa," ***The Washington Post*** ***(https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/world/africa/)***, August 2, 2014the **(https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/world/africa/)**

April 11 to 15 | No class – 2022 ASAA Conference

April 18 to 22 | Book discussion - *The Wolf at Number 4: A Novel*

Bibliography

1. *Required Readings*

- Ahlman, Jeffrey S. *Kwame Nkrumah: Visions of Liberation*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 2021.
- Boahen, A. Adu. *African Perspectives on Colonialism*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989.
- Getz, Trevor R., and Liz Clarke. *Abina and the Important Men: A Graphic History*. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.
- Tamakloe-Garr, Ayo. *The Wolf at Number 4: A Novel*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 2018.

2. *Suggestions for Further Reading*

- Davidson, Basil. *Modern Africa: A Social and Political History*. 3rd ed. London: Longman, 1994.
- Falola, Toyin. *Key Events in African History: A Reference Guide*. Westport: Greenwood Press, 2002.
- Hargreaves, John D. *Decolonization in Africa*. 2nd ed. New York: Longman, 1996.
- McEvedy, Colin. *The Penguin Atlas of African History*. 2nd ed. London: Penguin Books, 1995.
- Meredith, Martin. *The Fate of Africa: A History of the Continent since Independence*. New York: Public Affairs, 2011.
- Oliver, Roland Anthony, and Anthony Atmore. *Africa since 1800*. 5th ed. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005

University Press, 2005.

- Reid, Richard J. *A History of Modern Africa: 1800 to the Present*. 2nd ed. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.
- Shillington, Kevin. *History of Africa*. 3rd ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

Course Organization

This course is organized in the form of a seminar with three meetings per week. Time in class will be divided between lecture and discussion. The instructor reserves the right to intervene in the outline whenever he thinks appropriate, including to change readings and to add materials. The required readings are available for purchase at the university's bookstore. Students must read all the readings assigned and think about them before coming to class. Participation in class is crucial for a successful learning experience in this course. Therefore, students will be expected to engage in class discussions and voice their opinions based on the readings assigned.

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is required from every student. Students are allowed up to three unexcused absences. If a student misses class for a fourth time without a formal excuse, he or she will be automatically withdrawn from this course. Students are responsible for obtaining notes and announcements made in the classes they missed. Long periods of absence due to illness must be explained either by: 1) a signed letter from the Doctor (not an appointment card, bill, receipt, or prescription) with the dates the student remained ill, or 2) a letter from the College Magister.

Assignments and Grades

During the course, students will be required to submit four two-page (minimum) discussion papers (doubled spaced) on the books assigned. The papers are due in MS Word format (.doc or .docx) through Canvas no later than 11:59 pm on the days assigned below:

- Jan 26
- Mar 07
- Mar 30
- Apr 27

All assignments will be graded on a 100-point scale. Papers will be weighed 70% of the final grade, while participation in class will make up for the remaining 30% of the final grade. Grades for all papers will be based on the quality of the argument, coherence, and originality, in addition to students' knowledge of the materials and issues discussed in class. Papers should be delivered in proper academic writing. Sloppy writing will result in a reduction of the grade and the following papers may be accepted only after students have submitted them for a revision at the Writing Center. Late papers will be penalized ten points for each day that they are late and they will not be accepted after three days, unless prior arrangements have been made for an extension. Students are strongly advised to deliver their papers on time through Canvas. If students have doubts about their grades

advised to deliver their papers on time through Canvas. If students have doubts about their grades, they may contact the instructor, but revisions will be made only with the originals in hands.

Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used to convert numeric scores into letter grades and vice-versa. If an assignment is missing, the score for that specific work will be graded zero. Further information on grade and the grading system is available under the Academic Policies and Procedures section of the university's General Announcements.

Grade	Scores	Grade Points
A+	97.00 to 100.00	4.00
A	93.00 to 96.99	4.00
A-	90.00 to 92.99	3.66
B+	87.00 to 89.99	3.33
B	83.00 to 86.99	3.00
B-	80.00 to 82.99	2.66
C+	77.00 to 79.99	2.33
C	73.00 to 76.99	2.00
C-	70.00 to 72.99	1.66
D+	67.00 to 69.99	1.33
D	63.00 to 66.99	1.00
D-	60.00 to 62.99	0.66
F	0.00 to 59.99	0.00

Academic Conduct

In this course, all students will be held to the standards of the Rice Honor Code, a code that you pledged to honor when you matriculated at this institution. If you are unfamiliar with the details of this code and how it is administered, you should consult the Honor System Handbook, which outlines the university's expectations for the integrity of your academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Academic misconduct will not be tolerated.

Audio and Video Recording

Students may not make audio or video recordings of class activity, except students permitted to record as an accommodation to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. All other students who record and/or distribute audio or video recordings of class activity are subject to discipline in accordance with the law.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability that may affect academic performance, you should: 1) make sure this documentation is on file with Disability Resource Center (Allen Center, Room 111 / adarice@rice.edu / x5841) to determine the accommodations you need; and 2) meet with me to discuss your accommodation needs. Additional information about the Disability Support Services is available at dss.rice.edu/.

Title IX Reporting

Rice University encourages any student who has experienced an incident of harassment, pregnancy discrimination or gender discrimination or relationship, sexual, or other forms of interpersonal violence to seek support. Students should be aware that all employees, including myself, are required by law to report all incidents of non-consensual interpersonal behaviors involving Rice faculty or students. Reporting does not necessarily mean that action is taken without the agreement of students. For more information, or to make a report please visit safe.rice.edu or email titleixsupport@rice.edu. You may also speak confidentially to a therapist in the Rice Counseling Center. To schedule an appointment dial 713-348-3311.

Emergency Plan

In the event of an emergency, the university's emergency management plan will take priority over the timeline of this syllabus. Detailed information about emergency preparedness is available at emergency.rice.edu/.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Mon Jan 10, 2022	HIST 223 001 Sp22 (https://canvas.rice.edu/calendar?event_id=280319&include_contexts=course_45563)	9am to 10am
Wed Jan 12, 2022	HIST 223 001 Sp22 (https://canvas.rice.edu/calendar?event_id=280320&include_contexts=course_45563)	9am to 10am
Fri Jan 14, 2022	HIST 223 001 Sp22 (https://canvas.rice.edu/calendar?event_id=280321&include_contexts=course_45563)	9am to 10am
Mon Jan 17, 2022	HIST 223 001 Sp22 (https://canvas.rice.edu/calendar?event_id=280322&include_contexts=course_45563)	9am to 10am
Wed Jan 19, 2022	HIST 223 001 Sp22 (https://canvas.rice.edu/calendar?event_id=280323&include_contexts=course_45563)	9am to 10am
Fri Jan 21, 2022	HIST 223 001 Sp22 (https://canvas.rice.edu/calendar?event_id=280324&include_contexts=course_45563)	9am to 10am
Wed Jan 26, 2022	Paper 1 (https://canvas.rice.edu/courses/45563/assignments/241729)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 7, 2022	Paper 2 (https://canvas.rice.edu/courses/45563/assignments/241730)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 30, 2022	Paper 3 (https://canvas.rice.edu/courses/45563/assignments/241731)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Apr 22, 2022	Participation (https://canvas.rice.edu/courses/45563/assignments/241733)	due by 9:50am
Wed Apr 27, 2022	Paper 4 (https://canvas.rice.edu/courses/45563/assignments/241732)	due by 11:59pm
	Roll Call Attendance (https://canvas.rice.edu/courses/45563/assignments/241734)	